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## APPLICANT REVIEW PANEL

## PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

July 19, 2010

Ms. Spano served as Chair and called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Roll call was taken with all members present: Ms. Camacho, Mr. Ahmadi, and Ms. Spano.

After soliciting public comment and receiving none, Ms. Spano moved to adopt as written the minutes of the June 30, 2010, panel meeting. There being no public comment or opposition, the motion passed.

Ms. Spano announced that the meeting would extend over several days and proceed in the order indicated on the agenda. In order to facilitate the reduction of the applicant pool from 314 applicants to 120 applicants in subpools of 40, Ms. Spano recommended that the panel discuss applicants by party affiliation beginning with applicants who are not affiliated with either major party, then Republican applicants and then Democrats. Ms. Spano announced that there were laptop computers available for public use at the back of the room enabling members of the public to access applicant materials considered by the panel in preparation for the meeting and that bureau staff would update the website as soon as practicable to reflect changes to the applicant pool as a result of the meeting.

Bureau of State Audits' Chief of Investigations Steven B. Russo, reported that bureau staff has been engaged in a number of projects in support of the panel's activities, including confirming applicant eligibility to serve under the provision of the Voters First Act that requires members of the Commission to have voted in two of the last three statewide General elections and to have maintained their party affiliation or non-affiliation since November 18, 2005. As a result of this work, the bureau identified and reported to the panel fifteen (15) applicants as ineligible. Mr. Russo additionally reported that staff has responded to the panel's questions related to applicants, contacted individuals and obtained amendments to their applications. Mr. Russo further reported that staff has been actively involved in maintaining the public comment process of written comments by the public and processing the Form 700's, which were received from all but two of the 314 candidates. Additionally, two applicants submitted late Form 700's, but requested that they remain in the applicant pool and have submitted their explanations for missing the deadline. The panel can consider whether or not to allow them to remain in the pool. The bureau also reviewed Form 700's for conflict of



interest or issues related to not properly completing the form, but staff has not located obvious instances of conflict of interest. Staff commonly identified instances where an applicant did not provide all of the information, such as not disclosing spousal income, leading Mr. Russo to conclude that some people failed to understand what they were required to do. Individuals remaining in the pool will be contacted to amend their Form 700 following the meeting and the bureau will post a Form 700 amendment form on the bureau's website. As the pool is reduced to 120, Mr. Russo reported that the bureau would undertake a more thorough examination of the applicants for conflicts of interest, particularly conflicts of interest generated by family members. Mr. Russo requested comments or questions from the ARP panel or the public. Ms. Camacho asked a question. The panel received no public comment on Mr. Russo's report.

Panel counsel reported that she would disseminate a total of ten reports, including one entitled "142 Applicants Who Did Not Receive a Favorable Recommendation from Any Panelist" and nine others organized by party affiliation. Panel counsel further reported that she had provided the panel with a memo containing several suggested interview questions and four interview schedules. Counsel reported that the bureau is working on an automated interview scheduling system whereby applicants could log into the system and schedule a particular date and time for the interview of their choice. Counsel requested that the panel identify an interview schedule on the first day of the meeting. She disseminated her reports and a public comment submitted by the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, the NALEO, MALDF, and the Greenlining Institute.

The panel requested public comment and received three.

At 10:15 a.m. the panel recessed to review the reports provided by panel counsel and reconvened at 11:05 a.m.

The panelists' assistants joined them at the dais immediately following the recess, with panel members introducing each of their assistants.

After some discussion and soliciting and receiving public comments, Ms. Spano moved to eliminate from the applicant pool all applicants who did not receive a favorable recommendation from any panelist, as listed in the report entitled "142 Applicants Who Did Not Receive a Favorable Recommendation from Any Panelist." Mr. Ahmadi seconded the motion. There being no additional public comment or opposition, the motion passed.

The panel discussed the pool of applicants not affiliated with either major party. Ms. Spano recommended that each member take turns suggesting an applicant the panelist would like to interview. All members agreed.

The following applicants were recommended, discussed and tentatively accepted into the pool of applicants not affiliated with either major party to be interviewed:

Gregory Francis

Peggy Lopez  
Tamina Alon  
Jerry Turem  
Vincent Casalaina  
Stephen Allen  
Velveth Schmitz  
Vylma Ortiz  
Thais Armenta  
Linda Civitello  
Mathew Lorono  
Jacquelyn Estrada  
Robert Silva  
Lacey Holtzen

The panel recessed at 12:07 p.m. and reconvened at 12:49 p.m.

The panel continued discussing the tentative pool of applicants not affiliated with either major party and recommended, discussed and tentatively placed into the pool the following applicants:

Michelle DiGuilio-Matz  
Robert Borneman  
Kimberly Wormley  
Ryan Stuck  
Beverly Finley

After asking panel counsel to read the list of 44 applicants not affiliated with either major party who may be interviewed, the panel requested public comment and received two.

At 1:21 p.m. the panel recessed to review the tentative list of 44 applicants not affiliated with either major party for interview and reconvened at 1:58 p.m.

Panel revisited the entire list of 44 for reconsideration of individual applicants. Panelists recommended, discussed and removed from the tentative pool the following applicants:

Robert Borneman  
Linda Civitello  
Lacey Holtzen  
Vincent Casalaina

Ms. Spano moved to interview the following 40 applicants, who are not affiliated with either major party:

James Aldredge, Teresa Espana, Stuart Flashman, Stanley Forbes, Connie Galambos Malloy, Sherman Gee, William Hamm, Christine Hernlund, Patrick Jefferson, Kerry Koths, Daniel Levin, Byrd Lochtie, Carl Luna, Conny McCormack, Paul McKaskle, Daniel Montello, Patrick Nunes, Robert Panerio, M. Parvenu, Patrick Perez, Josefa Salinas, Edward Scheidegger, D. J. (Donna Jo) Soviero, Maria Stewart, Kathryn Tobias, Gregory Francis, Peggy Lopez, Tamina Alon, Jerry Turem, Stephen Allen, Velveth Schmitz, Vylma Ortiz, Thais Armenta, Mathew Lorono, Jacquelyn Estrada, Robert Silva, Michelle DiGuilio-Matz, Kimberly Wormley, Ryan Stuck and Beverly Finley.

Mr. Ahmadi seconded. There being no public comment or opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to eliminate from the applicant pool the remaining applicants not affiliated with either the Democratic or Republican parties. Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Panel discussed the four proposed interview schedules contained in the memorandum prepared by counsel. Ms. Spano moved to adopt the interview schedule described in the proposed schedule for 1.5 hour interviews, 5 interviews per day, beginning at 9:15 a.m. and ending at 6:00 p.m., as suggested in counsel memo entitled "Suggested Interview Questions and Proposed Interview Schedules". Mr. Ahmadi seconded. There being no opposition, the motion passed.

Ms. Spano opened the floor for public comment. The panel received one comment.

The meeting was recessed for the remainder of the day at 2:36 p.m. and set to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, July 20, 2010.

Ms. Spano reconvened the meeting on Tuesday, July 20, 2010 at 9:31 a.m.

Roll call was taken with all members present: Ms. Camacho, Mr. Ahmadi, and Ms. Spano.

Ms. Spano summarized the events of the prior day and requested public comment. There being no public comment, the panel began discussing the pool of Republican applicants who the panel sought to interview.

The panel continued with the Republican sub-pool, with panel member's suggesting in turn the names of applicants the panelists wished to interview. The panel recommended, discussed and tentatively placed into the pool of Republican applicants to be interviewed all of the following individuals:

Gene Lee,  
Wesley Hussey  
Jeffrey Kwong  
Peggy Huang  
Jodie Filkins Webber

Detta Hunt  
David Ikari  
Michael Briggs  
Vincent Barabba  
Edward Duran  
Elizabeth Miller-Bougdanos  
Susan Miller  
Evelyn Zneimer  
Bev Perry  
Alan "Skip" Jorgenson  
Susan Bowers  
Donna Beers  
Orrin Banta  
Jeffrey Johnson  
Suzanne Levy  
Raymond Jessen

The panel recessed at 10:37 a.m. and reconvened at 11:02 a.m.

The panel recommended, discussed and added the following individuals into the tentative pool of Republican applicants the panel sought to interview:

David Burdick  
Glen Priddy  
Daniel Seagondollar

The panel requested public comment relating to the list of applicants for the tentative Republican sub-pool and received one comment.

The Panel recessed at 11:19 a.m. to individually review the sub-pool and reconvened at 1:04 p.m.

The panel discussed reducing the Republican pool from 47 to the required 40 applicants.

The panel discussed removing the following individuals from the tentative sub-pool:

Detta Hunt  
Glen Priddy  
Susan Bowers  
Raymond Jessen  
Elizabeth Miller-Bougdanos  
Wesley Hussey  
Jeffrey Johnson  
Susan Miller

The panel requested public comment relating to the list of applicants for removal from the tentative Republican sub-pool and received none.

Panel recessed the meeting at 1:50 p.m. to return to their respective offices to review the pending list of applicants for the tentative Republican sub-pool and reconvened at 2:06 p.m.

After further discussion, panel decided that Wesley Hussey and Susan Miller would remain in the sub-pool. The panel agreed to remove David Burdick from the list of Republican applicants the panel sought to interview.

The panel requested public comment relating to the tentative sub-pool and received none.

Ms. Camacho moved to interview the following 40 applicants who are affiliated with the Republican Party:

Christine Allcorn, Kathleen Beasley, Robert Gonzales, Larry Kerr, Leilani Kimmel-Dagostino, Martin Lax, Nancy Lyons, Sandor Mayuga, Davin McAndrews, Gabriel Morales, Henry Norton, Lilbert "Gil" Ontai, Roy Salume, Christine "Chris" Shipman, Gina Simas, Charles Starr, James Vidal, Evelyn Volpa, Michael Ward, Mary Werthman, Cecilia White, Ronald Wilczynski, Peter Yao, Gene Lee, Jeffrey Kwong, Peggy Huang, Jodie Filkins Webber, David Ikari, Michael Briggs, Vincent Barabba, Edward Duran, Evelyn Zneimer, Bev Perry, Alan Jorgensen, Donna Beers, Orrin Banta, Suzanne Levy, Daniel Seagondollar, Susan Miller, and Wesley Hussey.

Ms. Spano seconded. There being no public comment or opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to eliminate from the applicant pool the remaining Republican applicants. Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Panel counsel reported receiving two written comments both of which were supplied to the panel members and available at the back of the room.

The meeting recessed at 2:29 p.m. to reconvene at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, July 21, 2010.

Ms. Spano reconvened the meeting on Wednesday, July 21, 2010 at 9:31 a.m.

Roll call was taken with all members present: Ms. Camacho, Mr. Ahmadi, and Ms. Spano.

Ms. Spano summarized the events of the prior two days where the 40 applicants for the sub-pool of applicants not affiliated with either major party and the 40 applicants for the Republican sub-pool were selected. Additionally, the chair announced that the title of one of the reports has been amended to correct a typographical error, but that the amendment made no substantive changes to the report.

The panel recommended, discussed, and tentatively placed into the pool of 40 Democrats the following applicants:

John Gamboa  
Charles Turner  
Gregory Freeland  
Angelo Ancheta  
Charles Afflerbach  
Julian Leichty  
Richard Ford  
Janet Heinritz-Canterbury  
Maria Blanco  
Gregory Beyrer  
Gracie Madrid  
Fay Mason  
John Saavedra

The panel recessed at 10:30 a.m. and reconvened at 10:50 a.m.

The panel continued to recommend, discuss and tentatively accept the following Democrat applicants:

Elaine Kuo  
Janith Norman  
Sandra Bressler  
Vito Imbasciani  
Martha Jimenez  
Kathryn Black  
Jeanne Raya  
Daniel Walker  
Brightstar Ohlson  
Ira Lowry  
Melissa Bottrell

After asking counsel to read the names of the applicants who had been added into the tentative pool, the panel requested public comment relating to the tentative applicants affiliated with the Democrat sub-pool and received none.

Panel recessed at 11:45 a.m. and reconvened at 1:17 p.m.

Panel reported that each was quite satisfied with the current recommended sub-pool of 41 and, as such, one applicant must be removed. The panel discussed and agreed to remove the following applicant from the sub-pool:



Sandra Bressler

The panel requested public comment relating to the tentative applicants affiliated with the Democrat sub-pool and did not receive comments.

Ms. Spano moved to interview the following 40 applicants who are affiliated with the Democratic Party:

Victoria Aguayo Schupbach, Gabino Aguirre, Manuela Albuquerque, Tangerine Bringham, Melissa Brown, Cynthia Dai, LaDrena Dansby, Michael Gabriel, Maria Harris, Lillian Judd, Xandra Kayden, Ann Marie (Amber) Machamer, Melissa Michelson, John MonPere, Tom Rivera, Leland Saito, Samuel Torres, John Gamboa, Charles Turner, Gregory Freeland, Angelo Ancheta, Charles Afflerbach, Julian Leichty, Richard Thompson Ford, Janet Heinritz-Canterbury, Maria Blanco, Gregory Beyrer, Gracie Madrid, Fay Mason, John Saavedra, Elaine Kuo, Janith Norman, Vito Imbasciani, Martha Jimenez, Kathryn Black, Jeanne Raya, Daniel Walker, Brightstar Ohlson, Ira Lowry, and Melissa Bottrell.

Mr. Ahmadi seconded. There being no public comment or opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to eliminate from the applicant pool the remaining Democrat applicants. Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Panel then discussed Item No. 7 of the agenda relating to the proposed applicant questions.

The panel requested public comment relating to the proposed interview questions and received one comment.

Panel discussed the 10 suggested interview questions contained in the memorandum issued by panel counsel. After discussion, modification and consideration to the 10 suggested interview questions, the panel requested public comment relating to the discussion of the proposed interview questions. One person provided public comment.

Mr. Ahmadi moved to ask all applicants who are interviewed the following question: What specific skills do you believe a good commissioner should possess? Of those skills, which do you possess? Which do you not possess and how will you compensate for it? Is there anything in your life that would prohibit or impair your ability to perform all the duties of a commissioner?

Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to ask all applicants who are interviewed the following question: Describe a circumstance from your personal experience where you had to work with others to resolve a conflict or difference of opinion. Please describe the issue, and explain your role in addressing and resolving



the conflict. If you are selected to serve on the Citizens Redistricting Commission, tell us how you would resolve conflicts that may arise among the commissioners.

Mr. Ahmadi seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to ask all applicants who are interviewed the following question: How will the commission's work impact the state? Which of these impacts will improve the state the most? Is there any potential for the commission's work to harm the state and, if so, in what ways?

Mr. Ahmadi seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to ask all applicants who are interviewed the following question: Describe a situation where you have had to work as part of a group to achieve a common goal. Tell us about the goal, describe your role within the group, and tell us how the group worked or did not work collaboratively to achieve this goal. If you are selected to serve on the Citizens Redistricting Commission, tell us what you would do to foster collaboration among the commissioners and ensure the Commission meets its legal deadlines.

Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

Ms. Spano moved to ask all applicants who are interviewed the following question: A considerable amount of the commission's work will involve meeting with people from all over California who come from very different backgrounds and very different perspectives. If you are selected to serve on the commission, tell us about the specific skills you possess that will make you effective at interacting with the public.

Ms. Camacho seconded. There being no opposition, the motion carried.

The panel requested public comment on items not on the agenda and received one.

There being no further business before the panel, meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

***For full transcripts of this meeting, please refer to the website:  
[www.WeDrawTheLines.ca.gov](http://www.WeDrawTheLines.ca.gov)***